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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE

APPLICATION OF: Kent E. Regnier

SERIAL NO.: 09/482,135

FILED: January 12, 2000

FOR: CONNECTOR HAVING SUPPORTIVE  
BARRIER COMPONENTS

EXAMINER: C. Prasad

ART UNIT: 2839

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 99-247 US

Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

AMENDMENT "D"

In response to the Office Action mailed August 8, 2002 withdrawing the finality of the last office action and reopening the prosecution of the above-identified application, kindly consider the following remarks:

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed on August 8, 2002, the Examiner objected to the drawings under 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a), rejected claims 1-11 and 13-27 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 5,098,311 (Roath et al.) and rejected claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Roath et al. in view of United States Patent No. 5,713,744 ("Laub"). By this present amendment, Figures 2-4 have been revised. Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested. Claims 1-27 are pending in this application.

The Examiner objected to the drawings as not showing the component strips recited in claim 12. Applicant, however, disagrees with the Examiner, and directs the Examiner to page 6, lines 9-13 of the specification, wherein there is a description of the component strips recited in claim 12, including citations to the various figures in the application. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to the drawings is respectfully requested.

) I hereby certify that this document along with any  
) documents referred to as being attached, is being  
) deposited with the United States Postal Service on  
) the date shown below as first class mail, postage  
) prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant  
) Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

December 9, 2002  
Date

Kerri Richardson  
Kerri Richardson

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